

STRIKE POSTPONED FOR 48 HOURS TO CONTINUE PAYLEY

Announced by Secretary Lane, Following Conference in New York.

EACH SIDE HAD HELD BACK FOR ADVANCE FROM OTHER

Railroad Managers at Meeting Stood Firm Against Action in Advance of Adamson Law Decision.

NEW YORK, March 17. Secretary Lane of the federal mediation committee announced at 3:45 o'clock this afternoon that it had been agreed to postpone the railroad strike for forty-eight hours.

He gave out the following statement: "At our request and out of an appreciation of the national situation the brotherhoods and the railroad managers have resumed negotiations. In the hope that some adjustment may be had that will avoid the necessity for a strike the brotherhoods have wired or telephoned their general chairmen asking that all action be postponed for forty-eight hours, and unless prior to that time advised of a settlement, the men will leave the service under the authority already given."

The statement is signed by Secretary Franklin K. Lane, Secretary William B. Wilson and Daniel Willard, three of the four mediators. Samuel Gompers, the fourth mediator, did not participate in the conference at any time.

A joint conference between the mediators, the brotherhood chiefs and the railroad managers will be held at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, when the negotiations for a settlement will be resumed. The forty-eight-hour postponement dates from 7 o'clock tonight, eastern time, the hour at which the strike was to have gone into effect.

PROSPECTS BRIGHTEN.

NEW YORK, March 17.—The prospect that the great railroad strike due to be inaugurated within a few hours would be prevented or at least that a truce would be declared brightened this afternoon, when shortly before 2 o'clock, Secretary Lane, member of the mediation committee of the Council of National Defense, announced that the situation was encouraging.

A subcommittee of the railroad managers went into conference shortly after 2:30 o'clock with the mediators and the brotherhood chiefs.

The joint conference was agreed upon after separate consultations by Daniel Willard of the mediation committee with both sides. The fact that both sides had at last been brought together by the mediators was considered a hopeful sign.

The mediators, it was reported, had asked the labor chiefs to agree to a truce of ten days, or at least until Monday, when it was possible that the Supreme Court might hand down a decision on the Adamson law.

Railroads Stand Firm. The railroad presidents adjourned their meeting at 12:30 o'clock. No statement was made by any of them, but it was reported that their position was unchangeable. They have been fighting it out with a great deal of ability on both sides between themselves for some time. They are working sincerely and earnestly to find a solution of the problem. After we have talked to the brotherhood chiefs we will see the representatives of the four roads again."

Samuel Gompers, one of the railroad managers, did not arrive at the hotel where his colleagues are stopping, and (Continued on Second Page.)

EFFORT TO SETTLE STREET CAR STRIKE ENDS IN A FAILURE

Washington Railway and Electric Company Directors Reject Commissioners' Offer.

STAND BY PRESIDENT KING FOR INDIVIDUAL CONTRACT

Attempt to Be Made to Force Strike-breaking Conductors to Ring Up Fares.

Women Seek Interview.

During the conference a delegation of ten women called to seek a conference with Commissioner Newman. Miss Alice George explained to them the Commissioners were in conference, and another effort will be made to see Mr. Newman Monday.

Board Issues Statement.

Following the conference with the company's directors the Commissioners gave out the following statement: "A two-hour conference this morning between the Commissioners and seven directors of the Washington Railway and Electric Company the Commissioners urged the directors to permit them to try to settle the strike by acting as mediators between the company and the conductors."

Will Not Deal With Association.

Attending the conference was C. P. King, W. F. Ham, Charles A. Spalding. (Continued on Second Page.)

TOMORROW

"FARM YOUR BACK YARD AND RE-EDUCATE YOURSELF." A convincing account of what a number of Washingtonians have accomplished along this line in a number of days.

"WILL THE UNITED STATES GO DRY?" An article of interest to both the "wet" and the "dry," by BURTON J. HENDRICK.

"TERCENTENARY OF THE DEATH OF POCAHONTAS." To be commemorated next Wednesday: Pocahontas Memorial Association to erect statue of her at Jamestown, Va., later in the year.

"GENERALLY SPEAKING, A JOB IS AMOUNT OF PROPORTION TO THE AMOUNT OF STUDY REQUIRED TO MASTER IT." BY BRUCE BAXTON.

"UNITED STATES MAY PRODUCE ITS OWN POLISH." By end of European war Germany will be formed that Uncle Sam is independent of foreign potato production.

"THROWING OFF THE BOOZE CONSTRUCTOR." A paraphrase of the famous story of Lancelotti and his two sons, by JAMES MONTGOMERY FLAGG.

"THE GREAT AMERICAN BABY." Dr. Grace L. Meigs of the Children's Bureau works for the conservation and preservation of the baby and advocates a national birth-record system.

"THE LABEL," a story well worth reading, by CONSTANCE SKINNER.

"UNCLE SAM'S FUR SEAL INVESTMENT." A story of a fur seal, by JAMES B. MONTGOMERY.

"PAYS A PROFIT OF SEVEN MILLION PER CENT SINCE PURCHASE." BY FRANK G. CARTER.

"THE OTHER BROWN." Another in the series of "The Great American Baby" serial, by ADELE LUERHMAN.

"NEW LAW BARS 250,000 INMATE IMMIGRANTS EACH YEAR." BY JAMES B. MONTGOMERY.

"REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS."

"NEWS OF ART AND ARTISTS."

"WIPING OUT \$100,000,000." BY ALBERT W. ATWOOD.

"ACHIEVING THE HOBBLE IN THE NEWEST SPRING SKIRTS." BY JAMES B. MONTGOMERY.

"EUROPEAN WAR CAUSES AMAZING CHANGES IN COSTUMES OF WOMEN."

"SIGNIFICANCE OF A LOYAL CAMARADE IN CUBAN REVOLT." A timely article, by CHARLES M. HARRIS.

"THE HAMBLER WRITES OF SOME OLD HOUSES ON E STREET."

"A BELGIAN BOY'S STORY OF HIS ESCAPE ACROSS THE FRONTIER."

"A SHILLING STORY WRITTEN IN STERLING HELING'S best style."

IN THE SUNDAY STAR

BAPAUME SEIZED BY BRITISH FORCES; PUSH PAST TOWN

Germans Leave Place in Flames—Other Towns Also Fall Before Haig.

FRENCH STRIKE HARD BETWEEN AVRE AND OISE

Gain Over Thirteen-Mile Line to Depth of Two and One-Half Miles at Some Points.

German Line Gives Way Over Extended Front; French Repulse Enemy

PARIS, March 17.—French troops advanced last night north of the Avre and between the Avre and the Oise, making progress over a front of twenty kilometers (thirteen miles), and to a depth at some points of four kilometers (two and one-half miles), the war office announces today. The statement follows: "North of the Avre and between the Avre and the Oise our detachments continued to exert vigorous pressure on the enemy, and during the night extended their progress on a front of twenty kilometers and to a depth at certain points of four kilometers. We took 10 prisoners."

German Attack Fails.

"Northwest of Berry-au-Bac, after the spirit of the Meuse, in the region of communication of yesterday, the Germans attacked our lines. The attack broke down under our fire. Certain enemy detachments which succeeded in penetrating part of a trench were ejected immediately with the bayonet."

Fighting East of Meuse.

"East of the Meuse there was spirited fighting yesterday and last night. In the region of Chambray farm several enemy attempts against one of our trenches were finally repulsed after a series of advances and retreats. The Germans suffered in several successful surprise attacks."

Retirements Before Foes Admitted by Germans; Some Success Claimed

By the Associated Press. BERLIN, March 17, by wireless to Seydlitz, a further retirement of the German forces on the western front, between Sally and St. Pierre Vaast wood and also between Beauvaux and Lassigny, was announced today by the war office. The statement follows: "Between La Bassée canal and the Aisne there was lively artillery fire. At several points British reconnoitering detachments were repulsed."

Successes Are Claimed.

"On the Aisne front an enterprise in the fortified enabled us to bring in thirty-five prisoners. In the Champagne there was strong artillery fire for a number of days. An attack of a French company west of Tahure failed. Between the Meuse and the Moselle German thrusting detachments at four different places brought in prisoners from the enemy's lines."

ENTENTE POWERS PROMPT TO EXTEND RECOGNITION

LONDON, March 17.—Official action by Great Britain, France and Italy in recognition of the provisional government of Russia was taken in Petrograd Thursday, according to Reuters' Petrograd correspondent.

The dispatch says that the executive committee of the duma and Col. Engelhard, diplomatic representative of Great Britain, France and Italy, who declared their readiness to enter forthwith into relations with the committee as the sole representative of authority in Russia.



INTERNAL PARALYSIS AS DANGEROUS AS OUTSIDE ATTACK.

TRAINMEN IN PENNSYLVANIA ASK COURT TO HALT STRIKE

File Bill in Equity to Prevent the Brotherhoods Calling Men Out—Say Few Favor Action.

PHILADELPHIA, March 17.—A bill in equity which has for its purpose the prevention of the four railroad brotherhoods from calling a strike of railroad employees within the state of Pennsylvania was filed in the federal district court at noon today by an attorney representing members of the four brotherhoods. No judge was in the federal building at the time and, although the bill is officially on file, it will not have the effect of preventing a walkout unless the papers are in favor of walking out. The bill is signed by a judge and an order issued, enjoining the men.

Think Few Favor Strike.

According to the trainmen they believe that not more than 10 per cent are in favor of walking out. The bill alleges that the joint ballot upon which the strike was called is not in effect at this time, inasmuch as it was obtained eight months ago, when times were not at the critical stage they are today. This strike ballot obtained eight months ago was canceled last fall when the Adamson law was enacted, the bill asserts.

Philadelphia Lines Ready.

Preparation to cope with the threatened strike were completed today by the railroads in this city. Officials of both the Pennsylvania and the Reading roads expressed confidence that the majority of their men would remain loyal and that the operation of neither freight nor passenger service would be seriously hampered. The Reading officials predict that their freight service will be operated up to 75 per cent and their passenger service up to 90 per cent of normal.

Will Guard All Trains THAT MOVE FOODSTUFFS

Gov. Harrington to Use Militia if Necessary—Ohio Governor Ready for Emergency.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., March 17.—Gov. Harrington declared last night that he would use the militia, if necessary, to protect the railroads in the movement of trains containing foodstuffs. Fears of a food famine in Baltimore if the strike is serious are dissipating on the assurance of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad officials that they will give preference to all foodstuffs over other traffic.

Ohio Governor Makes Statement.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 17.—Gov. Cox has issued a statement, saying the state of Ohio was ready for any emergency in connection with the threatened railroad strike, and that "if it becomes necessary to avert a food famine, or to give the President of the United States that co-operation in a crisis which he deserves, I will make martial law the law of the state, take over the railroads and run them."

APPEAL FOR PROTECTION.

Receivers of Rock Island and C. & E. I. Lines Apply to Court.

CHICAGO, March 17.—Jacob M. Dickenson, receiver of the Rock Island lines, and William J. Jackson, receiver of the Chicago and Eastern Illinois railroad, today applied to Judge George A. Carpenter, in the United States district court here, for the protection of the respective properties and of such employees of the roads as may remain in service or shall be employed.



INTERNAL PARALYSIS AS DANGEROUS AS OUTSIDE ATTACK.

EFFECT OF R. R. STRIKE ON D. C. INDUSTRIES

Number of Plants Will Be Affected Should Scheduled Walk-out Occur.

Washington being a city given to residential purposes for the army of government employees rather than manufacturing, the question of food supplies for the population is of greater local importance than interruption of transportation on manufactured products.

Would Halt Incoming Stock.

The shipment of finished product, however, is not of as serious concern just at present as the prevention of incoming tobacco. He tried to anticipate this as far as possible, but much of his supplies have been held up en route. He is expecting a serious shortage in several kinds of tobacco for special brands of cigars.

Ordnance Plant Hampered.

The Washington Steel and Ordnance Company at Giesboro point also is feeling the embargo. This big industrial concern makes its shipments over the Baltimore and Ohio, except what small part can be sent by water. The Baltimore and Ohio refused to take any product after last night. While the Giesboro point plant has been anticipating this as far as possible, it will have to be shipped with the next couple of months to fulfill contracts.

HOUSE SESSION TO OPEN WITH VACANCY UNFILLED

Democratic national committee headquarters in this city have been notified that an election to fill the vacancy in the first New Hampshire Congress district cannot be held in time to enable the successful candidate to take his seat at the opening of the special session of Congress, April 16.

BRAND TO RECONSTRUCT THE CABINET OF FRANCE

PARIS, March 17.—The French cabinet will be reconstructed. Premier Briand, it is understood, in addition to replacing Gen. Lyautey, the former minister of war, will have the department, which had been combined under one minister, restored to their former status.

FAIR WEATHER PREDICTED.

Forecast for District Gives Lower Temperatures.

Weather predictions for the week beginning tomorrow, issued by the weather bureau today, for the middle Atlantic states, including the District of Columbia, are: Fair weather with temperature below the seasonal average will prevail until Thursday or Friday, when the weather will become unsettled with probably rain. The latter part of the week will be warmer.

STEAMER ANSONIA REACHES LONDON.

NEW YORK, March 17.—The Cunard line steamer Ansonia from New York, February 28, for London, has arrived safely, according to cable advices received here.

GERMAN SCOUTS IDEA OF 'VICTORY'

Socialist Leader Calls U-Boat War Crime Against International Law. GOVERNMENT IS ASSAILED

By the Associated Press. THE HAGUE, via London, March 17.—The Koelnische Zeitung's account of the sensational debate in the Prussian diet Thursday adds some details to the speech of the socialist leader, Adolf Hoffmann, for which he was voted into silence. The paper says that Hoffmann amid noisy interruptions accused highly placed functionaries of cornering food while the poorer classes of north Germany were falling ready victims to smallpox owing to enfeebled vitality. The socialist deputy went on to declare that Germany was inciting the execution of the world through a policy of senseless provocation. The result increased when Hoffmann denounced any idea of annexation as senseless and criminal and the climax was reached when he stigmatized international warfare as a crime against international law. At this point he was shouted down and the house voted that he be taken into custody.

Scouts German Victory.

Adolf Hoffmann in supporting the desire for peace, is reported to have ridiculed the idea of a complete German victory, saying: "When we attain this, there will be no German soldiers left alive."

"The German nation," Herr Hoffmann added, "is bleeding for the sins of those in power." "It is high time (referring to the Herrenhaus) for an operation to remove this appendix of the body politic. Absolutism has worn Germany into the horrors of this war and turned the whole world against us. This feudalistic system of government must go."

Denounces Upper House.

Herr Leinert, a socialist democrat, according to the Berlin Vorwaerts of Thursday, denounced the upper chamber of the diet, which he said regarded the government as the mere caretaker of their own selfish interests and where nothing counted but shameless profit-making. Declaring that the reorganization of that body as suggested by the national liberals was useless, he said: "We must abolish the Herrenhaus, which is a millstone around the neck of the nation, progressive development in Prussia."

Says People Demand Peace.

"Such influence," Herr Leinert is reported to have said, "the herrenhaus regards as its own special prerogative. It wants the people to be commanded into war and out of it and that hollow should remain as they were, that is impossible. The people demand peace at the soonest possible moment."

Militarism Blamed for War.

Amid intermittent cheers Herr Leinert hinted at a time coming when the whole nation would arise and sweep "junkierism" off the earth.

RUSSIA WAS AT POINT OF A SEPARATE PEACE

Fact "Long Known in Official Circles" Now Is Discussed Publicly.

LONDON, March 17.—Henry M. Hyndman, leader of the socialist party in England, commenting on the Russian revolution, said: "There is no harm in saying so what has long been known in official circles; namely, that Russia was on the very point of making a separate peace with Germany last autumn through Premier Sturmer's public influence. The move in the duma forced the resignation of M. Sturmer and saved the entente an anti-Russian intrigue since the beginning of the war. But the intrigue was only scotched, not killed, and we were the victims of another movement of the same kind through Potroff (the deposed minister of the interior), when Prof. Milukoff and others in the duma again saved the situation, this time by the bold step of revolution."

HELINGSFORS DEFENDERS REFUSE TO JOIN REVOLT

LONDON, March 17, 4:10 p.m.—The Russian garrison at the fortress of Sveaborg, which defends Helingsfors, has refused to join the revolution, according to a dispatch received by the Swedish newspaper Nyheter, and forwarded here by the Stockholm correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company.

Dispatch adds, mutilated and the fortress has been declared in a state of siege.

CZAR IS REPORTED HELD A PRISONER; DYNASTY IN DOUBT

Nicholas Out, But Reported Abdication of Michael Apparently Is Erroneous. WILLING TO TAKE THRONE IF THE PEOPLE WANT HIM

Proposes an Early Plebiscite to Decide Form Which Government Shall Take.

LONDON, March 17, 3:45 p.m.—The Nya Dagligt Allehanda of Stockholm, as quoted in an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from that city, says in a telegram from Haparanda that Emperor Nicholas is now being held prisoner and that the empress has been sent to Kiev.

According to this report, Emperor Nicholas is being held in the Tauride palace (the house of parliament).

The Social Demokraten of Stockholm says M. Golitzine, the deposed Russian premier, has committed suicide in prison.

Somewhat conflicting advices are coming out of Russia regarding the fate of the Romanoff dynasty.

Dispatches this morning announced that Grand Duke Michael had accepted the throne from his brother, Nicholas II, subject to the consent of the Russian people expressed through a plebiscite.

Last night's advices reported the abdication of Nicholas II in favor of Grand Duke Michael and the subsequent abdication of Michael, thus bringing the Romanoff dynasty to an end.

Of the abdication of Emperor Nicholas there can now be no possible doubt, as the text of his manifesto announcing it has been received from Petrograd. What has occurred in the case of Grand Duke Michael, however, is still far from clear.

Final Decision With People.

Advices from Petrograd yesterday said there had been some difference of opinion between the duma leaders and the representatives of the workmen. The latter wished to leave undecided the question of form of the Russian government until after the holding of a constitutional assembly, whereas the duma group, fearing dangers to the country in the absence of a definite government, had put forward the program of a regency under the grand duke.

The qualifications which Michael is reported to have placed on his acceptance of the throne indicate that it has been decided to erect a temporary central authority so that there may be no diversion of the country's energies into prosecuting the war, but that at the same time the ultimate decision has been left with the people.

Grand Duke Michael Ready to Ascend Throne of Russia

If Such Is People's Will

By the Associated Press. LONDON, March 17, 12:45 p.m.—Grand Duke Michael has accepted the throne of Russia, conditioned on the consent of the Russian people, according to a statement received here today from the semi-official Russian news agency.

The statement follows: "Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovitch, accepting the throne from his brother, declares that he does so only with the consent of the Russian people, who should by a plebiscite establish a new form of government and new fundamental laws."

Grand Duke's Declaration.

The declaration made by the grand duke on his acceptance of the throne, as given out by the news agency, reads as follows:

"This heavy responsibility has come to me at the very request of my brother, who has transferred the imperial throne to me during a period of warfare which is accompanied with unprecedented popular disturbances."

"Moved by the thought which is in the minds of the entire people, that the good of the country is paramount, I have adopted the firm resolution to accept the supreme power only if this be the will of our great people, who, by a plebiscite, shall, by their representatives in a constituent assembly, shall establish a new form of government and new fundamental laws for the Russian state."

"Consequently, invoking the benediction of our Lord, I submit to the provisional government established upon the initiative of the duma and invested with plenipotentiary power, until such time, which will follow with as little delay as possible, as the constituent assembly, on a basis of universal, direct, equal and secret suffrage, shall, by its decision as to the new form of government, express the will of the people."

Supreme Command to Nicholas. A Reuters' Petrograd dispatch says that prior to his abdication the Russian emperor transferred the supreme command to Nicholas.